

ROLE OF IMPULSIVITY AND AGGRESSION IN ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE

ABSTRACT

CONTEXT

Substance use is increasing in India and is being reported as growing burden/concern in both urban and rural areas. Alcohol is the major substance used across the country and that alcohol use disorders are emerging as important public health concern in many states and territories of India. The reason for this is some drugs seems to be vulnerable and intrinsically more addictive than others, another reason is some individuals may be more impulsive by nature. Environmental factors or genetically dysfunctional reward system also play a role. The purpose and implication of this study is to understand about the Role of Impulsivity and Aggression(Human factors) contributing to Alcohol dependence and for further enhancement of treatment programs.

AIM

To study on the role of impulsivity , aggression in alcohol dependence.

OBJECTIVES

To identify the role of impulsivity, aggression in alcohol dependence syndrome.To determine the association between various measures of impulsivity

and aggression. To determine the association between adverse childhood effect, impulsivity and aggression.

METHODOLOGY

Study Design : Cross sectional study

SETTING : This study conducted at the Institute of Mental Health, a tertiary care center in Tamilnadu

STUDY POPULATION: 100 subjects of alcohol dependence were consecutively recruited for the study

SCALE USED

Semi-structured socio demographic proforma, Alcohol use disorder identification test (AUDIT), Barratt impulsiveness scales (BIS -11) , Buss perry aggression questionnaire (BPAQ) , Severity of alcohol dependence questionnaire (SADQ) ,Adverse childhood experience questionnaire (ACE)

RESULT

In this study, patients in the age group of 20-60 yrs, who consume alcohol regularly were enrolled. Majority of alcohol users were in the middle age group, with predominantly low levels of education. They were mostly unemployed, semiskilled and unskilled workers. Majority were married and had an income less than 7600/- per month. Their drinking patterns revealed that nearly three fourth of the men had been using alcohol for more than 5yrs. Early age of onset of drinking was associated with increased risk of severity of alcohol dependence.

Impulsivity is positively correlated with aggression. Similarly severity of dependence was positively correlated with impulsivity and aggression ,the severity of alcohol dependence increases impulsivity score increases. Similarly as the every sub scale of impulsivity increases other domain also increases. Adverse childhood effect positively correlated with all the sub scales of impulsivity. Adverse childhood experience were found to be positively correlated with impulsivity.

CONCLUSION

There is a significant correlation between severity of alcohol dependence, impulsivity and aggression. Also, between various measures of impulsivity and aggression. And between adverse childhood experiences, impulsivity and aggression. Family history of alcoholism strongly predict alcohol dependence. Number of relapse increases when abstinence duration was narrowed. Those who started consuming alcohol at early age became more dependent in middle age.

KEY WORDS: Impulsivity, Aggression, Alcohol Dependence